

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/USSR/Satellites

DATE DISTR 10 MAR 52

SUBJECT Trade via the Danube between Czechoslovakia
and the USSR and Satellites

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1. Two-thirds of the daily gasoline production of the Apollo Works, i.e. 1,000,000 liters, is transported by Soviet ships to the USSR. The gasoline is manufactured from Rumanian oil. The Apollo Works also export 150 barrels of oil per day to the USSR. Each barrel has a capacity of 200 liters. Twice a week, on Tuesdays and Saturdays, the oil and gasoline is shipped in barrels on two barges towed by a motor tug. During the summer months of 1951 exports were cut in half because of the low water level of the Danube. In October, however, three to four ships were leaving weekly for the USSR.

2. On 10 June 1951, the PAGODA, a 2,500 HP ship, left the Danube port of Bratislava with three barges, loaded with the following articles:

PAGODA : Oil pipes, 20-25 cm. in diameter and 15 m. long, rods, pipes of various diameters, several boxes weighing 250 kg. each, perhaps containing screws. The cargo was transported from Chomutov (N51/F02) and Kladno (N51/L59).

First barge : Machine tools, lathes and shapers from Zbrejovka-Brno, 4 Skoda-Tudor automobiles, 2 five-ton trucks, 6 type-7 15 tractors, 3 Skoda type-50 tractors.

Second barge : Military materiel exclusively, including fabric for uniforms, blankets, boots, canned foods, heavy boxes filled with unidentified material. The boat was guarded by military guards and contained 60 carloads of material, which had been loaded by soldiers and CSN members.

Third barge : Goertz optical equipment, products from the firms Dynamitka, Onemuroga, Kablo and the wood industry.

3. The ship DNEPR and two barges left the Danube port of Bratislava on 25 August 1951 with the following cargo:

DNEPR : Machinery, acid products from the Dynamite Works, other unidentified goods.

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First barge : Material for bridge installations from the Vitkovice Iron Works (P50/053), 1 hydraulic press weighing 420 tons, screws, rivets, 4 tractors; 2 Skoda-type busses without bodies.

Second barge : Boxes of miscellaneous goods.

4. On 21 September 1951 an unidentified ship with three barges left the port of Bratislava carrying the following cargo:

Unidentified Ship : Products of Skoda Works Pilsen, Ostrava-Vitkovice, Tatra-Koprivnice and Podbrezova Iron Works, unidentified miscellaneous goods crated in boxes and wrapped in paper. The cargo was loaded by members of the CSN, Bratislava. Reportedly it consisted mainly of optical equipment for military purposes, fabric for military uniforms, blankets, hand grenades and pistols.

First barge : Six freight-car loads of machinery in boxes from the Skoda Works; vehicle wheels and axles from Vitkovice, 3 trucks, 14 Skoda-type jeeps, several boxes of unidentified material.

Second barge : Products from the Zbrojovka-Brno, packed in boxes weighing 1,500 kg. each.

Third barge : Iron products for construction work, rods, profile steel, various machines, containers filled with acid, 2 complete steam engines from CKD.

5. Feldspar, red iron ore, and manganese ore were shipped from the USSR to Czechoslovakia once a week in three ships, each with two barges. Each barge had a capacity of 300 to 900 tons and could be unloaded in about six hours by two cranes. The ore was always transported at night from the port of Bratislava to Kladno, Vitkovice and Podbrezova (Q49/D06). The iron ore allegedly has a 70 to 80 percent iron content and is used as the raw material for export products to the USSR.
6. In 1951 the USSR delivered to Czechoslovakia via the Danube 3,500 tons of wool and cotton which went into the production of blankets and fabric for military uniforms; the finished products were exported to the USSR in two ships in August 1951. In the spring of 1951, six Russian-made combines were imported by Czechoslovakia to aid in the country's agricultural development. In late April 1951, the USSR shipped two boatloads of salted and smoked pork and bacon to Czechoslovakia for use by the Czechoslovak Army, and in August 1951 Czechoslovakia imported two boatloads of fish from the USSR.
7. At the beginning of September 1951, Czechoslovakia exported to Hungary cables from the Bratislava Cable Works, 9 Skoda-type tractors, 6 trucks, and one boatload of factory equipment, including lathes, 4 textile machines and 2 freight-car loads of paper. In 1951 three boats, each with two barges, brought pork, wine, tobacco, fruit and corn from Hungary to Czechoslovakia.
8. Every month Czechoslovakia sends to Poland one ship and two barges loaded with coke and one ship and two barges loaded with optical equipment, radio products, cars, screws, steam engines and special castings. In late September 1951, Czechoslovakia shipped a cargo of tractors and steam engines from the CKD Works to Poland. Every month Czechoslovakia imports from Poland two convoys(sic) of coal for the industries in Bratislava and one boatload of butter, eggs and other foodstuffs.
9. Czechoslovakia sends shipments of farm machinery to Bulgaria at irregular intervals. The last shipment, which was made in late August 1951, consisted of 4 threshing

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machines, 6 tractors, 6 binding machines, and a number of boxes of glassware, bottles, coveral lathos and other unidentified articles. In 1951 Bulgaria sent a total of five ships, each with three barges, to Czechoslovakia; they contained tobacco, wine, cereals, fruit, potatoes and vegetables.

10. It is not known what Czechoslovakia exported in 1951 to Rumania and to the Soviet Zone of Austria. In August 1951 Rumania sent to Czechoslovakia two ships, each with two barges, containing cereals, and in September 1951 one boatload of wine grapes and one ship containing dried fruit and 50 barrels, 1,250 liters, of medical alcohol. In 1951 Czechoslovakia received from Austria three boatloads of scrap iron and three boats containing soot for rubber production, measuring devices, watches and 5,000 kilograms of medical supplies.

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